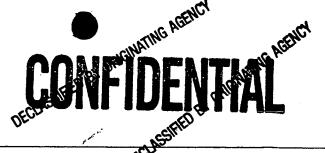
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--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

Page 6, before line 1, insert the following heading:

--DETAILED DISCUSSION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Page 7, line 20, delete "16" and insert --15--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 7 and add newly written claims 8 and 9 as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A long range artillery shell [comprising] <u>including</u> a payload, [a rocket motor and a rocket motor delay mechanism for delaying ignition of the rocket motor for a predetermined time after launch of the shell wherein the rocket motor] <u>said shell</u> comprises:
 - a combustion chamber;
 - a plenum chamber located at one end of the combustion chamber;
 - a rocket nozzle for venting the plenum chamber;
- a solid rocket propellant being arranged in an end-burn configuration and housed within the combustion chamber;

propellant ignition delay mechanism for delaying ignition of said propellant a

predetermined time after launch of said shell; and

a propellant support located between the propellant and the plenum chamber.

[wherein the] <u>said</u> propellant support [is] adapted to prevent substantial movement of the propellant during launch, to prevent entry of unburnt propellant into the plenum chamber and

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to permit [in use the] substantially unhindered transfer of propellant combustion products to the plenum chamber.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "7" and insert --6--.

- --8. A long range artillery shell including a payload, said shell comprises:
- a combustion chamber;
- a plenum chamber located at one end of the combustion chamber;
- a rocket nozzle for venting the plenum chamber;
- a solid rocket propellant being arranged in an end-burn configuration and housed within the combustion chamber;

propellant ignition delay mechanism at least initially located in said nozzle for ignition of said propellant a predetermined time after launch of said shell; and

a propellant support located between the propellant and the plenum chamber, said propellant support adapted to prevent substantial movement of the propellant during launch, to prevent entry of unburnt propellant into the plenum chamber and to permit substantially unhindered transfer of propellant combustion products to the plenum chamber.

9. A long range artillery shell as claimed in claim 8, further including a base bleed system comprising:

base bleed propellant ignition by launch of said shell; and

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